

OCCURRENCE OF PARAFOSSARULUS IN THE MALAY PENINSULA

A note on the occurrence of *Parafossarulus striatulus* (Bens.) in the Malay Peninsula

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Amongst the fresh-water mollusca listed by Ghosh (1929) from the Batu Caves, Selangor, is a species which he identified as *Paludomus baccula* Reeve.

I have had an opportunity of examining the specimens seen by him, and have concluded that they are examples of Benson's species *Paludina (Bithynia) striatula* Bens. 1842. In this conclusion I have the concurrence of Mr. Tomlin. The specimens show a close agreement with typical examples of *striatulus* from Hanoi, with which, thanks to Mr. Tomlin, I have been able to compare them, the only difference being that the Batu specimens do not show the characteristic spiral sculpture found in the Hanoi specimens. However Tomlin tells me (in litt.) "it varies from strongly ribbed to quite smooth".

Walker (1927) also noted "usually the spiral sculpture is conspicuous, but it varies in degree of development and is not infrequently quite absent".

The species has also been noted by Ghosh as occurring in ponds near Kuala Lumpur, Selangor (Ghosh 1929a).

The importance of the presence of this species in Malaya is of course due to the fact that it is a carrier of the trematode *Clonorchis sinensis* Cobb., the oriental bile-duct fluke.

In his list from the Batu caves Ghosh also described a small and very abundant snail as *Paludomus baccula* Reeve var. *minuta* var. nov.

I have been able to examine a large number of this form, and have submitted examples to both Mr. Tomlin and Dr. B. Rensch who agree that they must be identified as *Digoniostoma pulchellum* (Bens.).

This species is common in Assam, but according to Annandale does not occur in Burma.

Its appearance in the Selangor caves is therefore somewhat unexpected. It is present there in extreme plenty, both in the light and 'dark' part of the caves. So far as I know it has not been recorded elsewhere in Malaya.

REFERENCES

Annandale. 1921. Rec. Ind. Mus., XXII, p. 541.
Walker. 1927. Amer. Journ. of Hygiene, Monographic Series, No. 8 pp. 208 seq.
Ghosh. 1929. Journ. Fed. Malay States, XIV, pp. 334-335, fig. 1-2.
Id. 1929a. Tom. cit. p. 392.